NORTON

Urban District Council.

Medical Officer's Report

FOR

1900.

RALPH H. F. BOSTOCK.

NORTON, MALTON, 1901:
Thomas Baker, Printer & Stationer, 2, Church Street.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1900.

To the Chairman and Members of the

Norton Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

During the year 1900, 65 deaths were registered - 26 males and 39 females.

The death-rate was 15·9 per 1,000, estimating the population at 4,050, as compared with 14·5 in 1899.

The death-rates for the five preceding years were—

1895	12·5
1896	17·1
1897	15·5
1898	11·3
1899	14·1

The number of births registered in the year was 122—57 males and 65 females. The birth-rate equals 30·1 per 1,000 of the population. The natural increase of population by excess of births over deaths was 57.

There were 23 deaths of infants under one year. The causes of deaths of infants under one year of age were as follows :—

Whooping Cough	2
Epidemic Diarrhœa	5
Respiratory Diseases	3
Convulsions	4
Wasting Diseases	2
Premature Birth	5
Measles	1
Debility	1

The following gives the cause of death at all ages :—

Syncope	2
Convulsions	4
Rheumatic Fever	1
Accidental	3
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	9
Tubercular Meningitis	5
Cancer	4
Heart Disease	2
Phthisis	8
Premature Birth	3
Whooping Cough	4
Epidemic Diarrhœa	5
Other Causes	15

Mortality as to age—

Under 1 year	23
Between 1 year and 5 years	4
,, 5 ,, 15 ,,	7
,, 15 ,, 25 ,,	4
,, 25 ,, 65 ,,	14
Over 65 years	13

Reports of Infectious Diseases.

The following is the number of infectious cases reported to me :—

Erysipelas	10
Typhoid Fever	3
Scarlatina	26
Diphtheria	6

Typhoid Fever.

The three cases were in different parts of the town, and could not be traced to any definite source.

Diphtheria.

There were six cases of diphtheria. In one case the disease was, no doubt, contracted from an untrapped drain—another child taking the infection from this case. In case No. 3 there had been two cases of diphtheria in the house some years previously. The drains were in good order and nothing could be found to account for the disease unless from the previous cases. The other cases were of a very mild type, and the source could not be traced. The houses in all the cases have been thoroughly disinfected, and the drains properly trapped.

Scarlatina.

The 26 cases occurred in eleven houses—five cases in one house. The first cases in the town were no doubt contracted in York, the disease being very prevalent in the street in which all the family were staying. Another case was traced from this house to the neighbouring house. Eleven cases on Langton Road were in adjoining houses. The origin of the first case could not be traced, but no doubt the infection was passed from house to house. Four cases in Parliament Street were in one house, and there were no other cases in this street. The source could not be traced. The other cases were very mild ones, in separate houses, and the source of infection not traceable.

The sanitary condition of the district, where there are so many old houses, is very satisfactory. The Council have purchased a site behind the Old Church, on which to erect a Public Swimming Bath, which will be a great boon to the town. During the early part of the year there were a considerable number of cases of whooping-cough, measles, and mumps, on account of which the schools had to be closed for a few weeks. There has only been one case of scarlatina reported during the last month.

I have made periodical visits to the slaughter-houses and cowsheds. They have been regularly cleansed and lime-washed.

The following is a detailed list of Nuisances reported and remedied during the last twelve months :—

Defective Drains opened and cleansed and Sanitary Traps put in the place of old ones .. .	11
Bad footpaths to houses	3
Defective Spouting	2
Baths and Water-closets defective	2
Manure heaps removed	5
Ash-pits and Privies repaired and rebuilt	4
Piggeries removed	1
Cottage unsanitary, cleansed and repaired	1

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours Obediently,

R. H. F. BOSTOCK,

Medical Officer of Health.

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